



ALASKA PEOPLE

APRIL 1990

VOLUME XI

NUMBER IV

HD
170
.A43
v.11
no.4

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The Hanaayee Corner

Minerals...the Invisible Resource

BLM-Alaska's Minerals Program is responsible for 33,000 mining claims, 250 active mining operations, 60 mineral material sales or free use sites, over 5,000 oil and gas leases, nine producing oil and gas units, one coal lease, and the greatest potential for undiscovered hard rock minerals and oil and gas in the western hemisphere—especially in the NPR-A and ANWR.

In our day-to-day work, we oversee exploration, development and production of a variety of valuable mineral commodities such as oil, gas, coal, gold, silver, lead, tin, zinc, sand and gravel.

We prepare and oversee appropriate sections of Resource Management Plans, EISs and other planning documents. We identify potential mineral trespass situations. We inspect mining locations.

We also educate the public and outside groups about minerals and mineral programs. For example, we write and present professional papers, and make poster presentations at various professional meetings.

Art Banet recently wrote a paper on the geology and geochemistry of ANWR. Tom Mowatt developed a poster presentation at the International Archaeological Society meeting in Washington. Papers now being prepared for the Circumpacific Energy and Mineral Resources conference.

Minerals is the invisible resource—it's the one you can't see. It's the one that's difficult to touch, feel, and appreciate directly.

If you go out and look at a placer mining operation, it doesn't necessarily translate to the gold contacts that are used in a spacecraft or in certain new medical diagnostic equipment—or even the gold jewelry people like to wear. People



*John Santora, Deputy State Director
for Mineral Resources*

don't readily see the connection to the placer miner working on the ground.

The other thing is that mineral resources, by their very nature, require a disturbance of the environment from which they're going to be extracted, unlike the management of scenic, wildlife or wilderness recreation resources.

To people who are not directly involved, mineral resource management is not viewed as being the glamorous side of resource management. But minerals have played a significant role in mankind's cultural growth.

We've come to a point in our society where we have to make some very challenging decisions. It will be our great-great grandchildren who will look back and say whether we did use the best possible judgement in managing our resources for the betterment of the generations to come.

*Pronounced ha nie' yee, hanaayee
is Koyukon Athabaskan for "reporter"
or "one who talks."*

Meet VISTA Volunteer Stephen Parmele

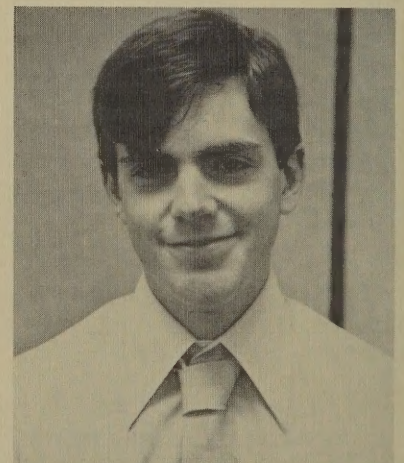
The Resource Apprenticeship Program (RAPS) has a new VISTA Volunteer. Stephen Parmele is working with coordinator Bob Jones on the program.

No newcomer to Alaska, Parmele spent last summer as a volunteer beachfront supervisor at Bingel Memorial Camp on Lake Harding in Salcha, Alaska. In 1987 he traveled throughout Southeast Alaska as a volunteer with the Anna Jackman Ministry.

A 1989 Penn. State graduate in physical geography, Parmele says, "Working with RAPS sounded like a really interesting volunteer experience, I'm really looking forward to it and also to having the opportunity to see what it's like working for BLM."

In his free time, Parmele enjoys photography, bicycling, soccer, tennis, cross country skiing and hiking.

Parmele replaces former VISTA volunteer Sharon White, who took a job with the State of Alaska.



Tom Dean and Bob Jones Receive Secretarial Stewardship Awards

On March 8, former Arctic District Manager Tom Dean and Alaska State Office Resource Apprenticeship Program for Students (RAPS) Coordinator Bob Jones flew to Washington D.C. to accept Secretarial Stewardship Awards from Department of Interior Secretary Manuel Lujan Jr.

After the ceremony they had lunch with Alaska Senator Ted Stevens.

"Lujan and his assistants were involved in all parts of the ceremony," says Jones. "It was all very impressive."

In 1987 Dean piloted a "hosted worker" program to provide natural resource management exposure to Native high school students.

The following year the program was expanded to ten students and last summer 30 Native students participated.

Jones was assigned as full-time RAPS coordinator in August 1988 and has been instrumental in building the program to its present size.

"RAPS serves as a bridge linking a tremendous potential labor pool



(left to right) Bob Jones and Tom Dean receive Secretarial Stewardship Awards from Secretary of Interior Manuel Lujan Jr.

for the Department of Interior with a demonstrated employment need," said Lujan. "It now combines and focuses the efforts of federal and state land managing agencies, the Alaska school system, and

private industry to provide worthwhile work and education opportunities for rural Alaska students seeking a career in natural resource management."

Getting Your Bearings, BLM Style

by Patti Tengberg

New employees should find it easier to learn the organization and find out who does what thanks to BLM's new orientation program.

The new program (effective the first pay period in April) is designed to enhance career development and promote employee excellence. The Bureau considers orientation to be critical to employee development and has identified it as the first and prerequisite component of its seven-phase career development program.

Orientation begins the moment a new employee reports to work. The most essential information is presented first; less immediate information follows over an extended period of time.

Primary responsibility for orientation now rests with the supervisor. Classroom training and videos augment the process.

An employee guidebook provides in-brief information on a wide range of topics relevant to all employees. A list of contacts and references at the end of each section makes it easy to obtain addi-

tional information. The loose-leaf design allows information to be updated at any time.

The new (optional) sponsor program puts employees at ease and provides extra support to those new to the federal government. A built-in monitoring process will draw on participant feedback to ensure the ongoing program's effectiveness.

Surveying Snow to Predict Spring Runoff

by Sharon Durgan Wilson

Don Keill shoved the long, hollow tube down through the snow until it hit the frozen ground. Carefully, he measured the depth, then weighed the contents. His companion, Wayne Stevens, recorded the information and calculated the water content in the snow.

The two Arctic District BLMers were taking their eleventh and last sample of the day. They had driven almost 400 miles north from Fairbanks on the Dalton Highway, measuring the snow pack and its water content from sites established by Soil Conservation Service hydrologists.

The Soil Conservation Service collates and publishes information collected from hundreds of sites around the state by BLM and other federal, state and local government agencies, and private corporations. Interested agencies use the data for different purposes.

"In the Lower 48, the snowpack moisture will affect the amount and type of forage available in the coming summer, which is important in grazing country managed by BLM. In Alaska, the information is used mostly to predict spring runoff, which will affect the flooding potential and navigation conditions of rivers," said Jim Sisk, acting district manager of the Arctic District.

Sisk says there is a good foundation of baseline data



Don Keill takes snow samples.

for the last 60 years in some places, and a network of information covering the major U.S. drainage basins for the last 20 years.

An above-average snowpack covers most of the state this spring. Runoff may also be above average, although it is influenced by how fast the snow melts, and by the absorption capacity of the soil.

Along with their usual snow measurements, Keill and Stevens conducted pH tests on Utility Corridor snow for a North Pole seventh-grade Life Science class. Teacher Gerry Young asked the district to assist her class, which has collected test results from all over the state and mapped acid precipitation data for two years. The students will also assess the effects, if any, of the ash fall from Mt. Redoubt, 600-1,000 miles to the south of the collection points.

Managers to Receive Drug Program Training

"BLM managers will receive training on the drug testing program in late May. Employees will be trained at a later date," says Bonnie Johnson, Supervisory Employee Relations Specialist.

"Drug testing is limited to the following testing designated positions (TDP):

Presidential Appointee, Schedule C, SES, and law enforcement positions

Positions with security clearance

Petroleum engineering technicians

Equipment operators

Aircraft operations positions

Highly sensitive ADP positions

State Office chiefs for the Branch of Information Services

Warranted or certifying officers

Fire operations positions

Any employee occupying a TDP position testing positive for drug use may be disciplined. A first offense ranges from a written reprimand to removal, depending on the circumstances. Subsequent offenses will mean removal from your job.

Drug testing can also be done if there is:

1. reasonable suspicion that an employee uses drugs.

2. an unsafe practice or accident has occurred,

3. as part of, or followup to, counseling or rehabilitation for illegal drug use through the employee assistance program.

Anyone applying for a federal job that is identified as a TDP will be tested before he or she is allowed to enter duty.

Before conducting a drug test, the agency will allow the employee to submit medical documentation that may support legitimate use for a specific drug.

If an employee voluntarily admits to using drugs, completes counseling and abstains from drug use thereafter, discipline is not required.

Periodic drug tests may be required by the supervisor of employees who have completed a rehabilitation program.

Any employee who feels that their position has been incorrectly identified as a TDP position may file an appeal with the assistant director for management services within 15 days of receiving notice.

Handbooks and videos will be available to all employees immediately after BLM managers receive the training.

AFS Chefs Cook for Homeless

by Sue Mitchell

In the true spirit of "Thousand Points of Light," four Alaska Fire Service (AFS) cooks have been packing food boxes for the Fairbanks Food Bank once a week, and cooking for the homeless and poor once a month at the Breadline.

"We were all doing volunteer work," said Jeannie McAlpin, "so we decided to do something together."

McAlpin, Sherri Lindsoe, Eileen Chittenden and



Mauna Loa Fleming

Mauna Loa Fleming are seasonal cooks for the AFS dining hall. They work long hours in the summer, feeding hundreds of fire fighters, often keeping the dining hall open 24 hours a day during fire busts.

When their jobs at AFS ended last September, they started volunteering. "It's a way we can take something we know

how to do and use it," McAlpin said.

They use their cooking skills to create warm, hearty meals for a program known as the Breadline which serves a hot lunch to 100 to 150 people daily. Most of the food is donated by local supermarkets from their salad bar leftovers.

Some days it's beef stew, biscuits, three kinds of salad and milk. Other days it's spaghetti, meatballs



Sherri Lindsoe

or tacos. McAlpin gets \$75 from her church for groceries each month. Chittenden usually does the shopping, and the four split the cost of any groceries that go over the \$75.

The cooks were praised by Mary Jenkins, who has run the Breadline for five years. "I was hoping BLM wouldn't start up again, so they could work all summer!" The cooks will have to quit volunteering when they start work for AFS in April, but they all plan to return next fall.

The Food Bank is a Fairbanks clearinghouse for donations. Volunteers make up food boxes for needy families. Every week the BLM cooks put together 16 to 28 boxes, each designed to last three days. "It's all healthy food and staples," said McAlpin. Lindsoe said, "It's a real slick operation."

The Breadline and Food Bank need your help and donations. Contact Mary Jenkins at the Breadline, P.O. Box 73329, Fairbanks, Alaska 99707, (488-2702).

Contact Walt Gelinas at the Food Bank, 517 Gaffney, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701, (452-7761).



Jeannie McAlpin



It's a Ho But Som Got to I

*Outdoor Recreation Planner Randy Goodwin and Roger Evans ski the new five mile Ski Loop Trail in the White Mountains National Recreation Area.
(photo by Dan Gullickson)*

by Sharon Durgan Wilson

Some people think it's a dream job; the chance to get out into the wilderness for days at a time, to travel places seldom seen by the average citizen. Others say, "He can have it. I don't need mosquitoes, mud, wind, sun, frostbite and possible hypothermia. I'll stay in my comfortable, climate-controlled office."

For Randy Goodwin, outdoor recreation planner for the Steese/White Mountains District in Fairbanks, the job is the culmination of a dream. Goodwin worked hard for this job, spending eight years as a seasonal employee, never knowing if he would be rehired the next summer. "I love being outdoors and active, and the scenery of the White Mountains makes a wonderful office," Goodwin says.

Goodwin assists in planning trails and cabins, following up with on-the-ground work. He reconnoiters, breaks, clears, marks and packs trails. During cabin construction, he remains on site, working with the carpenters and supervising seasonals assisting with the project. During the summer he supervises volunteers and summer college students as they float rivers and hike trails to inventory resources and collect data. Goodwin works long days and weeks in the field, no matter what the weather.

Goodwin was hired as a career status employee in October 1988. His primary responsibility is the White Mountains National Recreation Area, which has been chosen as a BLM-Alaska showcase.

"Randy's experience, dedication and willingness to work in uncomfortable conditions with worn-out equipment has accounted for the district's ability to continue implementing our plans for cabins and

trails," said Lon Kelly, lead district outdoor recreation planner.

Goodwin likes to show off his showcase area. He has given many talks and slide shows to public groups in the past, and coordinated displays for special shows and Alaska's Hunting and Fishing Day. "I talk to a lot of people in the public room here at BLM and in the field, and I keep the trail information sources current on our telephone recording and in our flyers," Goodwin said.

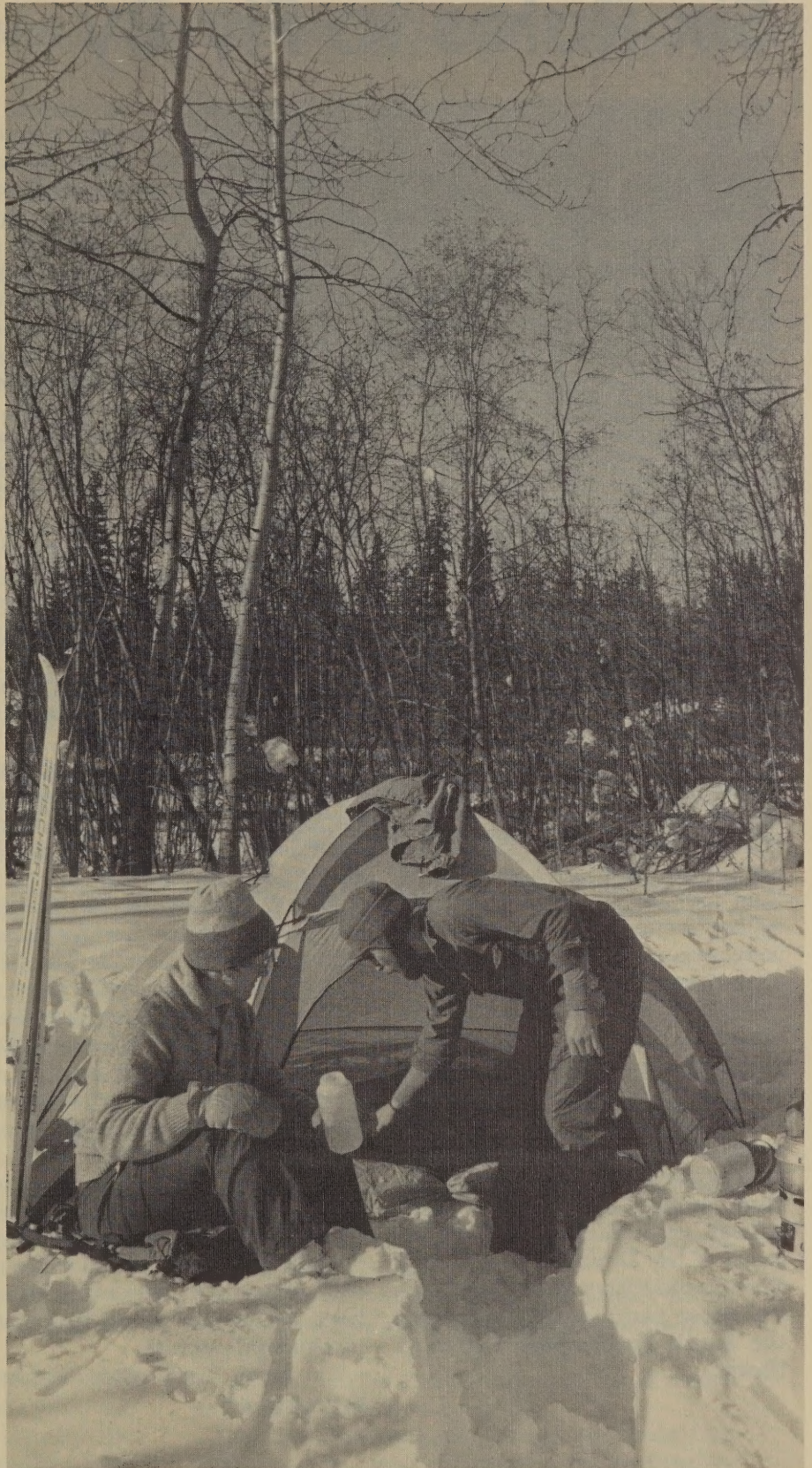
A recent three-day trip to the BLM cabins with newspaper writer Kelly Bostian (at 45 degrees below zero on snowmachines) resulted in a 3-page spread with color photographs in the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner. Goodwin expects to see many VIPs tour the White Mountains area this summer as it gains popularity with the public.

"Our cabins and trails system in the White Mountains is the only one of its kind in BLM," said Roger Bolstad, district manager. "We manage the only national recreation area in BLM, and Randy has been a key figure in getting the cabins constructed and keeping them maintained, and in making the million-acre area a prime recreational center. He is constantly thinking about how he can improve the remote recreational experience for the users."

Everyone on the Steese/White Mountains recreation staff is dedicated to managing BLM's public lands in a way that gives the public maximum enjoyment of the opportunities available, while still protecting other natural resources. Goodwin epitomizes the staff's motto, "When you're serious about having fun."

ard Job, nebody's o It!

**Neither rain,
nor sleet,
nor snow can
keep a
stalwart BLM
outdoor
recreation
planner
from his
appointed
rounds.**



Roger Evans (left) and Randy Goodwin set up camp in the snow. Goodwin constantly stresses the need to be prepared for carrying shelter on all excursions into remote areas of Alaska. (photo by Dan Gullickson)

Six Rules to Fly By—

by Danielle Allen

Jack Lewis tells the following story when making a point about aircraft water safety.

"Almost three years ago a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service helicopter went down in a channel just south of Prince William Sound. The helicopter carried four Fish and Wildlife Service employees and no survival equipment.

"The copter became inverted and filled quickly with fuel and water. Escape was difficult but all four made it successfully outside the aircraft. They only had one pontoon to cling to since the other was damaged and under water with the rest of the copter.

"It was fall and they wore parkas. Their hopes began to fade as the current took them further away from an island, the closest land mass. So they decided to swim for the island. Part way, one tired and returned to the pontoon. The others continued and reached the island cold, wet and with only a BIC lighter to start a fire. Luckily, they were rescued later that evening but their companion was never found."

Lewis, a natural resource specialist for the Anchorage District office, used examples like this while training 26 employees last month in Hawaii about water aircraft emergencies, marine survival and how to get out of a submerged aircraft. He and Jim Scofield, an OAS trainer, were in Hawaii at the request of the Directors of the Park Service and Fish and Wildlife Service whose parks and refuges span the South Pacific from Guam to Hawaii.

"There are six rules which all employees should abide by when flying **noncommercial** airplanes," says Lewis. These rules apply whether it's a seasoned field employee or a paper-pushing manager out for the day on a trip to a village.

Rule 1: The pilot should brief employees on emergency procedures, the location of survival equipment, how and where to exit aircraft.

Rule 2: Employees should check if the pilot's OAS card is current and also if the aircraft's OAS card is current.

Rule 3: Employees should tell the pilot what their plans are, what they want to accomplish, where they're going and know who is tracking the flight.

Rule 4: Employees should know where they are throughout the flight.

Rule 5: Employees should have clothing which will keep them comfortable from their point of origin to their destination (know the weather conditions in between)

Rule 6: Employees should always carry a fire starter, nonpyrotechnic signaling device, a small first aid kit with compresses and knife and cord.

Park Service Director Bryan Harry and Fish and Wildlife Service Director Al Marmelsteien wanted the training because of the amount of time their employees spend traveling over vast stretches of water.

Lewis also thinks its necessary that employees who will be flying this summer and may not have had the opportunity to attend water aircraft training to remember the six rules he lives by when flying non-commercial aircraft.

You never know when they may save your life.



Jack Lewis

Employee Relations...The Quiet Side of Personnel

Most of us are familiar with the Branch of Human Resource's Staffing Section (they hired and processed your paperwork), with the Classification Section (which determines the title and salary of jobs), and the Training Section (which helps develop individual training).

The Employee Programs and Services Branch or Employee Relations team is not so widely understood. They take care of performance, awards, grievances, appeals, discipline, health and wellness issues, worker's compensation, retirement and death claims.

Compassion, maturity and good judgement are qualities that help to make a good Employee Relations person.

An example is Employee Relations Assistant **Nancy Brainerd**. After winding down from a long season of awards, she now focuses her attention on suggestions, worker's compensation, and a variety of other Employee Programs and Services concerns.

Brainerd's experience includes five years as an administrative specialist with the Air National Guard and four years with BLM.

Jack Grafton, EEO specialist detailee, Brainerd's right arm during award season, began his government career in 1955 as an Army pole lineman, policeman and radio operator.

He worked as a placement and training specialist for the Bureau of Indian Affairs for nine years in Oakland, California, Bethel, Alaska, Spokane, Washington, and Kalispel, Montana, before joining BLM's Branch of Legislation in D.C. In 1981 he transferred to Anchorage as EEO Specialist.

Employee Relations Specialist **Tim Godfrey** administers the retirement and benefits programs which includes the Thrift Savings Plan, health/life insurance, leave, and employee assistance/wellness programs.

Godfrey worked as a fire control aid and on a helitack crew while working toward a bachelors degree in geology at Alaska Methodist University. He worked as a civil service technician for the Air National Guard in 1973, but transferred back to BLM's Anchorage District from 1976-83 as a fire support assistant.

When fire management transferred to Fairbanks, he became a personnel clerk with the Anchorage District office and later with the Air National Guard. He joined Employee Programs and Services in March 1989. A people person, satisfaction for Godfrey is counseling employees and their spouses.



The Employee Relations Staff. (standing) Nancy Brainerd, Jack Grafton, (seated) Tim Godfrey and Bonnie Johnson

Bonnie Johnson, Supervisory Employee Relations Specialist, is the newest member of the team and comes to BLM with twenty years of experience working for the Army.

Johnson began her federal career in Okinawa, Japan, and continued to New York City, San Antonio, Texas, Munich, Germany, Washington D.C. and Anchorage.

Her genuine interest in people shows in her daily work. She says, "This specialty holds more satisfaction than any other I have experienced because when I'm able to help someone, it makes the unpleasant tasks tolerable."

Grievance and Appeals, Drug Awareness, Discipline, Leave, and Performance are her primary duties. A newcomer to BLM, she is getting to know the workforce and learning how BLM does business.

Workwise or Otherwise

The Exxon Corporation is using BLM Alaska's "Bear Facts" video, produced by Alaska State Office Public Affairs, as part of a training package for all employees working on the oil spill cleanup this spring and summer.

The April issue of National Geographic Magazine has a photo (p. 19) of Cadastral Survey's **Dave Bieganski** in an extensive feature story called "Antarctica: A Land of Isolation No More." Bieganski returned to BLM in February after a 15-month assignment at the South Pole.

BLM-Alaska has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Alaska Natural History Association (ANHA).

ANHA is a nonprofit private organization that supports educational and scientific programs of state and federal land managing agencies in Alaska. The association provides funding for research, publications, and many other projects. ANHA began supplying publications for retail sale at the Interagency Visitor Center at Coldfoot. Proceeds will go to further visitor information outreach projects in the Utility Corridor.

Individuals can also join ANHA. Dues are only \$5 a year and entitle members to a 15% discount at all ANHA sales outlets in Alaska and other discounts at sales areas operated by other cooperating associations in many parks, forests, and wildlife refuges in other states.

Lane Lockard, 15 year old son of Cadastral Survey's **Lance Lockard**, was Anchorage's representative on the 1990 Alaska Junior Men's Arctic Winter Games Basketball Team. The eight-member Alaska team competed in Yellowknife, Canada, March 11-17, and placed second.

The Arctic Winter Games is a unique international event patterned after the Olympic Games. It is held every two years with competitions in various sports between Alaska and three Canadian provinces.

A freshman at Dimond High, Lockard played on this year's varsity basketball team.

Public Affairs Writer/Editor **Susan Mitchell** and Personnel Assistant **Mike Jarrett** were this year's Fairbanks BLM nominees for the Federal Executive Association's Employee of the Year Award.

The Anchorage area nominees were **Teresa McPherson**, Public Affairs Editorial Assistant, **Dot Kleffer**, Land Law Examiner, **Dennis J. Hopewell**, Regional Solicitor and **Cliff Ligons**, EEO Specialist.

April 25 is National Secretaries Day. Don't forget to give your secretary the recognition deserved!

Anchorage District biologist **Van Waggoner** recently met with field employees and Washington Office staff to develop a five year strategy for integrating natural resource education into BLM's existing programs.

It's all part of the BLM's Natural Resource Education (NRE) Outreach Initiative, a natural resources education program designed to improve the public's understanding of natural and cultural resources.

The group recommended:

- the creation of NRE Washington and DSC offices with selected State Office NRE coordinator positions,
- giving the state directors discretion in implementing NRE and

- integrating NRE into BLM's mission.

"We place a high priority on the important role of education in ensuring the public's knowledge, appreciation and support of our natural resource priorities," says Secretary of Interior Manuel Lujan.

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds! From May 1-June 30, coordinators will be contacting you to sign up for savings bonds. Bonds are a good way to save money and provide important tax breaks!

Welcome Aboard (March 1990)

Daryl Moistner, Survey Technician, ASO Division of Cadastral Survey

Judy Krammer, Land Law Examiner, ASO Division of Conveyance Management

Moving On (March 1990)

James Filkins, Student Trainee, ASO Division of Cadastral Survey

David Hubbard, Land Surveyor, ASO Division of Cadastral Survey

William Kness, Land Surveyor, ASO Division of Cadastral Survey

Michael Jennings, Land Surveyor, ASO Division of Cadastral Survey

A pplause

Sustained Superior Performance Award

Garth Olson, Supervisory Cartography Technician, ASO Division of Information Resources Management

Michael Brown, Supervisory Navigable Water Specialist, ASO Division of Conveyance Management

Joe Labay, Land Law Examiner, ASO Division of Conveyance Management

Joanna Hatton, Land Law Examiner, ASO Division of Information Resources Management

Susan Britt, Land Law Examiner, ASO Division of Information Resources Management

Robert Rinehart, Supervisory Land Law Examiner Coordinator, ASO Division of Information Resources Management

Gerald Wyse, Automotive Mechanic, ASO Division of Support Services

John Sroufe, Land Surveyor, ASO Division of Cadastral Survey

Clifford Lignons, EEO Manager, ASO Office of EEO

William Hale, Cartographic Technician, ASO Division of Cadastral Survey

Rena Christofferson, Cartographic Technician, ASO Division of Cadastral Survey

Special Act Award

Thomas Deiling, Supervisory Land Surveyor, ASO Division of Cadastral Survey

Kathleen Jackson, File Clerk, ASO Division of Cadastral Survey

Bruce Ockrassa, Cartographic Technician, ASO Division of Cadastral Survey

David Evans, Geophysicist, ASO Division of Mineral Resources

Quality Step Increase

Nancy Larson, Land Law Examiner, ASO Division of Conveyance Management

Shirley Kelsor, Lead Legal Technician, ASO Division of Support Services

Elaine Barankiewicz, Secretary, ASO Office of the State Director

SF-182s... A Thing of the Past

by Patti Tengberg

On May 21, completing a REQUEST AUTHORIZATION AGREEMENT AND CERTIFICATION OF TRAINING form (Standard Form SF-182), will be history for BLM Alaska employees.

BLM's new computerized training system fills in the SF-182 using information from your Individual Training Plan and BLM's Training Catalog.

The computer scans the data stored in the system and identifies the courses that you have planned for the year. Six weeks before the starting date of each course, the computer generates an Employee Registration Letter.

The letter must be signed by your supervisor and returned promptly to Employee Development to confirm that you still plan to attend. A signed letter signals the computer to generate the SF-182.

The 182 is printed and sent immediately to the vendor, who then advises Employee Development of the status of the class and whether the nominee has been accepted. Based on the vendor's response, the computer generates a second memo about two weeks prior to the class. It notifies employees either that they have been accepted or that the course is cancelled or postponed.

Respond to computer queries promptly or you could miss the course!

Under the new system, you will no longer be able to attend courses that have not been entered into the computerized version of the training catalog.

Course information must be input at least six weeks prior to the starting date of a session. This ensures that you are nominated, that billing is handled properly and that attendance is credited to your training record.

New courses can be added to the data base at any time by completing Form AK1400-144 and returning it to the Employee Development Section. Once a year, old courses will be purged from the data files and hard copies of the catalog will be distributed for planning purposes.

Social Security numbers will no longer be used as employee identification. Instead, you should use the Position Identification Number located in the upper right-hand corner of the position description (Form OF-8). Failure to use the proper I.D. number will cause the training plan to be rejected and returned for correction.

The new system will help Employee Development serve you better. For more information call 271-3305.

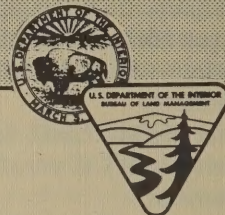


Springtime in northern interior Alaska brings the best weather and deepest snow for winter sports. Unfortunately, the conditions of the trails also get worse, after a winter of compaction from snow machines and fluctuating weather conditions. The moguls that fill the trails for miles make traveling by snow machine or cross-country skiing difficult. The Steese/White Mountains District recreation staff now has a solution to improve the many trails in the White Mountains National Recreation Area.

The district purchased a trail groomer in January. The groomer, a metal framework with a blade set on sled runners, is pulled behind a snow machine. The blade cuts off the tops of high spots on the trail, teeth at the front of the frame chew up the snow and loose snow is deposited into low spots.

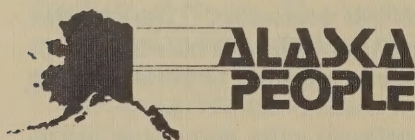
ALASKA PEOPLE is published monthly for the employees of the Bureau of Land Management and is distributed statewide. It is produced by the Public Affairs Staff, Alaska State Office, 222 W. 7th Avenue, #13, Anchorage, Alaska, 99513-7599. Phone 271-5555.

Chief - David Vickery
Editor/Writer/Design
Tricia Hogervorst-Rukke
Layout - Jim Mroczek



On the Cover:

Steese/White Mountains
District Outdoor Recreation
Planner Randy Goodwin grooms
bumpy cross country trails in
the White Mountains National
Recreation Area. (photo by Dan
Gullickson)



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